

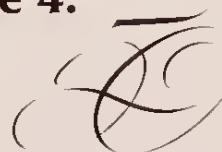
## THE PATH THAT BRINGS YOU BACK

1995 Homecoming  
Weekend Special Issue



**There's Something  
Powerful in the Air!  
And it's the Avila  
Eagles! Check out this  
1995-96 season  
preview. Page 3.**

**50 Years of Music in  
One Glorious Night.  
A look at the musical  
lives touched by one  
woman and one  
festival. Page 4.**



**A quarter of a million  
dollars ... 600 guests ...  
and one free car.  
Now that's an auction!  
Discover the adventure.  
Page 6.**

**Meet two who will lead  
in Avila's pursuit of  
academic excellence.  
Page 8.**

**Class notes, good  
news, upcoming  
events, and more!**

# A C C E N T O N

# AVILA

## COLLEGE



## FOR 10 YEARS, DR. KRAMER'S ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

**T**here are many words to describe Dr. Larry Kramer, president of Avila College. Boastful is not one of them.

This year marks Kramer's tenth year of service to the Avila community and along the way, this quiet, unassuming son of a Kansas farmer has helped the college boost its enrollment and its donor base as well as its national notoriety.

But while he shares in the excitement of these accomplishments, he makes sure the credit is shared equally with faculty, staff, students, and supporters.

In fact, his ascension into higher education can be characterized in the same manner—the result of hard work based on traditional values, not an ambitious, cut-throat climb up the ladder. His work ethic and leadership style have also allowed Kramer to earn the distinction of being the longest-tenured senior college president among the public and private institutions in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Because of his expertise in school management and development, educators in both Kansas and Missouri have enlisted Kramer in a variety of consulting capacities. Once again, he seeks no credit for this “labor of love.” He won’t even acknowledge the work on his curriculum vitae.

### THE ROAD TO AVILA

Kramer comes by this humility in an honest way. It can be traced back to his childhood growing up on a farm in Garden Plain, Kan. From the time he was in seventh grade until he left home for military service, he milked cows twice a day, every day.

“In the German Catholic community where I grew up, strong values were a part of life,” Kramer says. “People were honest, trustworthy and hardworking.”

Neither of his parents attended college, but they were diligent to ensure their children had the opportunity to do so. Kramer entered Pittsburg (Kan.) State University with a desire to play football. But his 155-pound frame was going to be a hindrance. However, Kramer relied on his persistence and work ethic to earn a position on the varsity roster. The big payoff came when he played on the team that won the 1961 NCAA Division II national championship.

While in college, Kramer began to build his future by becoming president of his senior class thanks to his strong reasoning skills and common sense. After his days at Pitt State, Kramer took his first step in an education career at Bishop Carroll High School in Wichita. For the next 11 years, he held several positions, including vice principal.

From Bishop Carroll, Kramer moved up to the role of principal of Aquinas High School in Shawnee Mission, Kan. At a time when he and his wife Jan were raising their four children, Kramer entered the University of Kansas to complete a doctorate in education.

“At that time, traditional graduate education programs were becoming increasingly interested in the inner workings of Catholic education,” he says. “Because of my experience, many universities were asking me to be a part of their graduate programs so we could learn from each other.”

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No. 54

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# Welcome To The 1995 Homecoming Accent!

**S**o much changes in a year, yet so much remains the same. Despite career changes, growing families, new joys and new losses, plans made, plans realized, and plans forgotten, we all share something in common. A common path. A moment in time when our life steered us through the campuses of the College of Saint Teresa or Avila College and through the living vision of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

It is that common path that brings us all back to Avila to remember and renew, to tell the old stories and create some new ones, to celebrate who we were and who we have become.

*This special edition of Accent is timed to accompany those who trace a physical path back to Avila's campus to participate in Homecoming Weekend, and to share the experience with those who must travel the path back only in their minds. It tells a few new stories about the good things Avila is doing today and relates the ongoing story of Avila's history.*

*If you're among those on campus, we hope you can take it all in. If you couldn't join us this year, read and enjoy this special edition, and make plans now to join us next year on the path that brings you back: to Homecoming Weekend.*

## Mary Ellen Clark Takes Helm Of Alumni Program

**M**ary Ellen Clark '73 joined the Advancement Office staff in September as Director of Alumni Relations and Prospect Research. She graduated from Avila with a degree in nursing and has spent the past two decades building a successful career as well as supporting the efforts of Avila College through numerous volunteer activities.

To say she has made an impact on Avila would be an understatement. Clark and her husband, Dan, were instrumental in the development and evolution of the Avila College Golf Classic which help funds scholarships for dependents of alumni who attend Avila. Now in its twelfth year, the Golf Classic has raised more than \$105,000.

"My father told me he had enough money for only one year at Avila, but thanks to a generous financial aid package, Avila gave me the opportunity to stay and graduate," she says. "Whether it's the golf tournament or any other volunteer work, I just wanted to make sure that I paid back Avila for its commitment to my education."

Since 1973, Clark has been involved with the Avila Alumni Association Board, the Avila Nursing Advisory Board and Avila Board of Counselors and also was a visiting faculty member in the nursing department.

She comes from a heritage of Catholic education, graduating from Catholic grade school and high school in Sedalia, Mo.

"My seven brothers and sisters and I all went to school in a four-room schoolhouse operated by the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Carondelet," she says. "They inspired me to go on to college and get a degree in nursing."

While at Avila, Clark says a turning point in her young adult life came through a class in the nursing curriculum called "Team Leadership."

"Without a doubt, it helped me understand that nursing is a respected profession and that as a nurse I brought a level of expertise to any medical situation," she says. "It built greater confidence in me both as a person and as a professional. That's the mark of a great institution of higher learning."



*Alumni Director Mary Ellen Clark '73 promises alumni will be seeing more events, increased communication efforts, and other special programs.*

And I know there are more stories like mine out there among our graduates."

In addition to alumni relations work, she also will research current and potential donors to the college. As Alumni Director, Clark is excited about the opportunity to build bridges between Avila and its alumni, to create a sense of pride in the school and to get people excited about the potential of Avila College. She adds that alumni will be seeing more events, increased communication efforts and other special programs.

"For instance, we'll try to develop a mentor program to help incoming students meet Avila alumni and get excited about the future benefits of an Avila education," she says. "I'll also be working with the Community Relations staff to help get the word out to local and national media on our alumni success stories. And that's just the beginning."

## Tracing The Path

**T**o understand the history of Avila College, you must travel down a path that originated in 17th century France. Under the patronage of Saint Joseph, six women from LePuy dedicated themselves to the "... practice of all the spiritual and corporal works of mercy of which woman is capable and which will most benefit the ... dear neighbor."

Their mission lead them on a journey across the Atlantic Ocean to New Orleans and along the mighty Mississippi to the "Gateway to the West," St. Louis, Mo., in 1836. Nearly 30 years later, the Sisters journeyed to Kansas City, a burgeoning sprawl on the banks of the Missouri river. Here they began St. Teresa's Academy, a private school for girls.

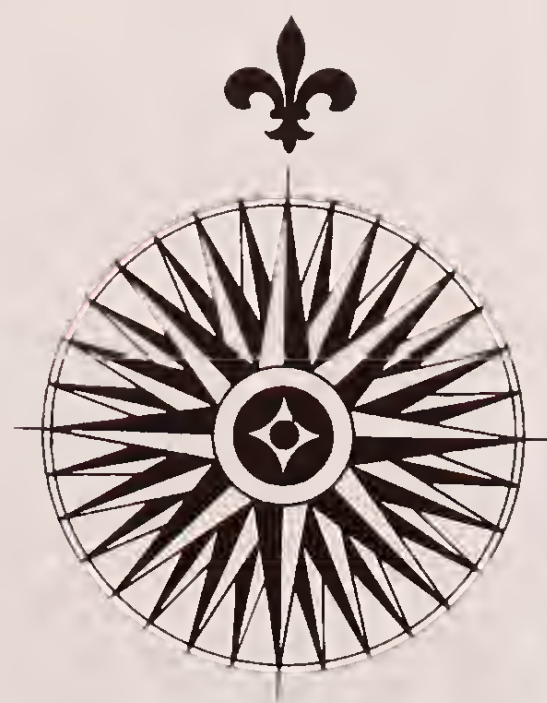
In 1916 the Sisters founded the two-year, women-only Saint Teresa College on the same campus as the academy at 5600 Main. In 1941 the college became the four-year College of Saint Teresa. It was fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in 1946.

In 1963 the pioneering spirit of the Sisters lengthened its shadow southward as the academy's leadership looked to the then-undeveloped edge of Kansas City at 119th Street and Wornall Road for a new location. The campus was built with a portion of the original Santa Fe Trail providing its southern border—creating a true intersection of pioneers. With the move came a change of the college's name to Avila College, still in honor of Saint Teresa of Avila.

In its brief history, Avila College has paved the way for Kansas City's first baccalaureate degree programs in nursing and social work, as well as the area's first public administration, women's studies, and gerontology studies programs. It became coeducational in 1969; established graduate degrees in business, education, and psychology in 1978; and began Kansas City's first Weekend College in 1984.

Avila completed a \$6 million capital campaign and celebrated 30 years at its current location in 1993, and is honoring the tenth anniversary of its current president, Dr. Larry Kramer, throughout 1995. The college will observe its 80th anniversary in 1996.

More than 1,400 students from more than a dozen different countries and all parts of the United States cross paths with Avila College every year. Avila offers nearly 40 undergraduate, professional, and preprofessional degree and certification programs, as well as three graduate programs and the nationally recognized Women's Leadership Institute and Women's Entrepreneur Program.





# Eagles Ready To Make An Impact Throughout 1995-96

## Women's Volleyball

The Lady Eagles are anticipating big things after a 25-20 season in 1994, which included winning the Midlands Collegiate Athletic Conference (MCAC) post-season tournament and earning a trip to the NAIA Midwest Regional Quarterfinals. Look for this momentum to spill over into the new season which will be complemented by the leadership of four returning starters: senior Kerry Ewing and juniors Michelle Turner, Diana Block, and Paulette Limback.

Solid fundamentals have become synonymous with Eagle volleyball and will provide the building blocks for the upcoming season. In 1994, Avila was the tenth-rated team in the nation for passing percentage and the nation's top rated team in digs per game. A good recruiting class as well as top-notch returning players provide a stellar squad for 1995.

After two years as assistant coach, Jason Smith begins his first year as Avila's head coach. Jason played collegiate volleyball at Graceland College in Iowa where he was three times voted all-region and selected regional MVP after his senior year. Along with his personal accomplishments, Jason is proud to have been on three regional championship teams (1990, 1991, 1992) and a national championship team his junior year (1991). Before landing at Avila, Jason served as a statistician with the U.S. Men's National Volleyball Team.

## Women's Soccer

The second year for the women's program will be full of new faces. Coach Cathlin Maloney is returning seven players from last year's team: Melissa Anderson, Anna-Lisa Criswell, Danielle Hoover, Andrea Kidwell, Shonette Micco, and Amy Pokorney. Some of the new faces for this year include six freshmen and two transfers.

The women are looking at some tough competition in the MCAC and are planning a return to the conference playoffs. Even in the face of rebuilding the team, Coach Maloney is very optimistic about the future.

"Building a successful program will take some time and this season is the best place to start," she says. "I am planning to make some history with this team."

## Men's Soccer

The 1994 season was tough for the Eagles (4-13), but the team still finished second in the MCAC. The leading scorer for the men's soccer team was Jamie Rowlett, who managed to score five of his 12 goals in one game. Shannon Hursman lead the team in assists with five during the season. Graduate Phil Pileggi was named an All-America Scholar-Athlete. Graduate Dusty Gutierrez was named a second-team All-MCAC player. H.L. Dunsworth and Rowlett, also second-team

All-MCAC players, return to the team this year.

Dylan Aiman returns this fall as head coach to the college where he distinguished himself in the classroom and on the soccer field. While at Avila College, he earned a Bachelor of Arts in natural sciences and was named team captain of the men's soccer team his senior year. In 1987, Aiman and his brother Alex played on the District 16 championship team. The following year, Aiman was named first team All-District and held Avila's leading scorer position. During his career at Avila, he was named to All-District, All-Area, and All-America teams.

Since graduating from Avila in 1991, Aiman has been teaching biology and coaching boys' soccer at Park Hill (Mo.) High School. His coaching record at Park Hill was 68-18-9 with a second place finish in the 1993-94 Missouri state tournament.

Coach Aiman is excited about returning to his alma mater. He promises a season full of surprises, and plans to make it to the conference championship and beyond. The core of returning players will provide leadership necessary to advance the team, and the new recruits will add to the pool of talent that already exists on the team. Three new players have traveled from Wales and Germany to play for the Eagles this season. Coach Aiman reports, "It is good to be home, and I'm looking forward to the Avila community coming out and supporting our program."

## Women's Basketball

"We are a very young team" is an old saying coaches use when they have a large number of freshman and sophomores on their roster, which typically translates into inexperience.

On the other hand, coach Jim McMurray is excited about having a young nucleus, one he believes the coaching staff can build into a contender in the MCAC. The Eagles will begin the season with 13 returners, four freshmen and three transfer students.

"Our talented student-athletes place us in position to compete for this year's MCAC women's basketball championship," McMurray says. "I believe this squad has the ability to be one of the best in Avila College history."

## Men's Basketball

The Eagles are looking to rebound after last season. "With the number and caliber of players we have returning, combined with an excellent recruiting class, we should make an impact," says head coach Fred Turner.

Whether Avila's impact will be in the MCAC alone or on the NAIA national basketball scene depends on how the Eagles returnees capitalize on their experience, the impact of a talented group of newcomers, and, of course, the luck of staying injury-free. With the number of injuries sustained last

season, the Eagles will be looking to patent an antibiotic for injuries.

The Eagles have great expectations for seniors and are looking for immediate help from a talented pool of new players, including Shawn Brown. Several players have raised their level of the game and will be competing with new players for starting positions.

## Baseball

With seven players departed from last year's roster it might appear that the Eagles will be rebuilding this season. Perhaps it says something about the state of Avila's baseball program that it can afford to lose a large group of letter winners and still be considered a contender for the MCAC title.

The primary reason for the optimism is having a strong returning nucleus mixed with a good recruiting class.

The 1996 Eagles will be lead by second basemen Brooks McCord as well as pitchers Jason Coots and Chad Wilkinson. A mixture of junior college transfers and freshmen will also be counted on this season.

Coach Jim Huher says, "I am excited about the quality players we have competing in our program this year. From top to bottom this is the most talent we have ever had at Avila. One of the keys to success this season will be to build strong team chemistry on and off the field."

## Softball

The Eagles experienced a good rebuilding year in 1995. The team had no seniors and started five freshmen. They compiled a 22-22 overall record and a 7-4 conference record despite being riddled by injuries all season. Michelle Kessler was selected first team All-Conference and Teresa Boeding, Monica Bullock, and Amanda Endicott were selected second team All-Conference.

With all of last year's squad returning and a good recruiting class coming in, this year's season looks promising for the Eagles. They added depth and strength with transfers Megan Snyder and Brandi Evans. In addition, Jaki Staggs will return after a one-year layoff. The team will also look for leadership from seniors Teresa Boeding, Michelle Kessler, and Jennifer Kraemer.

Highlights for the upcoming season include the first-ever Avila College Invitational and hosting the Midlands Collegiate Athletic Conference tournament in March 1996.

# Four Students Named All-American Scholar-Athletes

Each semester, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) honors a select group of student-athletes who have excelled both in competitive sports and in the classroom. Athletic Director Carl Clapp is proud to announce that four student-athletes were chosen to represent Avila. They are, Craig Johnston, Stacy Street, Luana Cumpton, and Phil Pileggi.

Johnston, a senior management major from Peculiar, Mo., has earned five combined letters in basketball and baseball while maintaining a 3.73 GPA in management at Avila. He was the 1994-95 basketball team captain and made second-team All-Conference for the Midlands College Athletic Conference. The previous season, Johnston was named

to the NAIA's All-Midwest Region basketball team. In his spare time, he coaches fourth and fifth-grade basketball teams in Peculiar.

A senior psychology major from Greenridge, Mo., Street plays on Avila's women's volleyball team and carries a 3.82 grade point average. Street, who lead the team in assists, was also named to the 1994 Midlands Collegiate Athletic Conference (MCAC) second team all-conference squad. She was instrumental in the Eagles comeback victory over Kansas Newman in the finals of the MCAC volleyball tournament.

Cumpton, a senior communications/theater major from Liberty, Mo., was a member of Avila's women's soccer team and carries a 3.77 grade point average. This honor is even more special to Cumpton because

1994 was her first year to play intercollegiate soccer. She certainly made the most of her experience, helping Avila's first-ever women's varsity soccer team to a record of nine wins, seven losses and three ties.

A native of Kansas City, Mo., Pileggi was the leader of Avila's men's soccer team and carries a 3.63 grade point average in medical technology/science. This is the second year in a row for Pileggi to win this national honor. During his career at Avila, he led the team in goals and assists and was named the team's most valuable player in 1993.

All-America Scholar-Athletes must be juniors or seniors, have minimum cumulative grade point averages of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale, and have made significant contributions to their team and community.



# Gala Concert Marks 50 Years Of Avila College Music Festival

Some of the nation's best concert artists joined a capacity crowd in Goppert Theater Sunday, March 19, to honor the 50th Annual Avila College Music Festival and its one and only coordinator, Sr. de LaSalle McKeon.

"The Music Festival is something we at Avila can all be proud of because it's the longest running festival of its kind in Kansas City," says Dr. Dan Larson, chair of the humanities department. "The gala concert to honor this special occasion is something everyone who was in attendance will remember for years to come."

The evening began on a high note as Larson read proclamations from Kansas City Mayor Emmanuel Cleaver, the Jackson County Legislature and Missouri Governor Mel Carnahan declaring March 19 as "Sr. de LaSalle McKeon Day."

From there, the energy level went up another octave as musical prodigies Nathan and Rachel Brandwein, standout soprano Jane Ohmes, and world-renowned pianists James Dennihan and Albertine and Ralph Votapek displayed their musical talents for a very attentive and appreciative crowd.

"As a young musician growing up in Kansas City, I really appreciated having the opportunity to participate in the Music Festival," says Albertine Votapek who played in the Music Festival during the 1950s. "It's such a wonderful feeling to be back to honor Sr. de LaSalle and pay homage to my musical heritage."

The Votapeks, who reside in East Lansing, Mich., were looking forward to playing in the Gala Concert—that was until a monkey wrench was thrown into the plans. Ralph, the winner of the very first Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, was scheduled to play several concerts in Taiwan during April, but a scheduling conflict pushed the tour back to March. However, his tour promoters paid for Ralph to fly from Taiwan to Kansas City to play in the concert then jet back to Taiwan to complete the tour.

"Playing in the Gala Concert meant as much to Ralph as it did to me," Albertine says. "He was adamant about being here and, thankfully, his promoters were gracious to make the necessary arrangements."

Mrs. Votapek along with Dennihan, Ohmes and

the Brandweins are a few of the more than 75,000 students who have participated in the Avila College Music Festival. Beginning in 1944 with just 300 performers, the Music Festival has grown to nearly 3,000 music students from Kansas and Missouri schools who perform before judges. The top rated performers are then invited to participate in two winner's concerts.

The idea of a music festival originated five decades ago with Sr. Marietta Jennings, president of Saint Teresa College, and Sr. John Marie Riley, academic dean. Sr. de LaSalle was requested to act as assistant director of the festival because of her previous experience with the Fontbonne Music Festival in St. Louis.

Since 1946 the Music Festival has been recognized under several titles: College of Saint Teresa Music Festival, Saint Teresa Music Festival, Avila-Diocese Music Festival, and now the Avila College Music Festival.

The Music Festival was held at St. Teresa's Academy until the 1960s when it moved to the Music Hall downtown. It finally ended up at Goppert Theater on the Avila College campus in 1976.

The first year of the festival featured glee clubs only. At Sr. de LaSalle's urging, the festival was

opened up to include soloists and groups from both local high schools and elementary schools. There was even a time when marching bands were part of the festival, performing on the circle drive at the entrance of St. Teresa's Academy. It wasn't until 1950 that the winner's concert was introduced to showcase the top-rated talent from the Music Festival.

Throughout its illustrious history, a slew of Kansas City influentials have participated in the Festival, either as a member of a chorus, a soloist or a judge. Among them are such local celebrities as Kansas City Lyric Opera founder Russell Patterson and such national performers as pop star Nicolette Larson.

"When I first played in the Music Festival, I had to sit on a telephone book to reach the keyboard," Dennihan says. "After all these years, the people who have been touched by the Festival and Sr. de LaSalle could fill a phone book."

## One Festival, One Woman for Fifty Years



Sr. de LaSalle McKeon

Marian McKeon told her mother she would never be a piano teacher or a nun. Little did she know there was a divine plan already set in motion that would change her attitude—not to mention countless lives—forever.

After unsuccessful attempts at farming, Marian's father decided to go to work for the railroad. His job took the McKeon family from Frankford, Kan., to Kansas City, and finally St. Louis.

During seventh grade in St. Louis, Marian met Sr. John Joseph who became her music teacher for nearly 12 years. During this time, Marian had also grown close to a high school math teacher, so much so that she attended the wake of the teacher's relative.

"The wake was held in a local convent, and I remember being so struck by the atmosphere," she says. "I said to myself 'if this is peace, then I want to be a part of it.'" Fresh out of high school Marian joined the convent.



The Votapeks, Sr. de LaSalle, and two students

She later taught at Fontbonne University in St. Louis, replacing her beloved music teacher who was accepted to the prestigious Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y. Sr. served as a judge at the Fontbonne Music Festival until she moved to Kansas City as supervisor of music for the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. She was also hired as music teacher at Redemptorist High School.

While finishing her master's degree at DePaul University during the summer of 1945, Sr. received a notice from the order that she was being moved from Redemptorist to St. Teresa's Academy. It was here that she was approached by Sr. Marietta Jennings, president of Saint Teresa College, to begin and coordinate the Music Festival. And the rest is Kansas City music history.

Currently, Sr. is in "semi-retirement" which means cutting back to 22 private piano lessons a week and directing the annual Music Festival.

Love and respect for Sr. de LaSalle continues to grow. In a recent essay written by David Lee, a piano student and sophomore at Barstow School in Kansas City, he described Sr. as being "... in her 70s, but she is patient and jolly, even when she is tired. She is one of the nicest people I know, and she taught me everything I have learned about music."



The 50th Gala Concert performers from left to right: Albertine Votapek, Jane L. Ohmes, Nathan Brandwein, Sr. de LaSalle McKeon, Rachel Brandwein, James Dennihan, Cynthia Hukill and Ralph Votapek.

Photo by Elaine Shea



# Students Spend Holidays Helping Others, Learning Lessons



Amy Schwab (far left) and Ellen Carmody (next to Amy) pause during work with students from William Jewell College.

While most students were enjoying their winter break on the ski slopes or relaxing at home, three representatives of Avila College survived three days of rain to build a home for a needy family in Tijuana, Mexico.

"Students leave for a trip like this with the idea they have sacrificed a ski trip or other holiday vacation," says Fr. Dan Torson, director of campus ministry at Avila. "However, when they return it's often with the feeling of being ministered to themselves. The basic lessons of simplicity, solidarity and poverty are taught to these students by the families they are serving."

Torson, Ellen Carmody and Amy Schwab joined a group of eight students from William Jewell College of Liberty, Mo.,—a college which has been active in mission work since 1980—and decided to invite Avila to participate in this year's venture.

It was a course called "Liberation Theology" at Avila that spurred Carmody, a junior theology and elementary education major, to be part of this mission trip.

"Throughout the course we dealt with recognizing injustice, reflecting on personal beliefs, then taking action to right the wrong," Carmody says. "I viewed this trip as the final step of the class."

For freshman nursing major Amy Schwab, the journey was a logical extension of her career interests.

"I've always felt the need to be involved with international relief efforts," she says. "Someday I hope to build on this experience and my nursing studies to pursue a career with the Red Cross."

The trip was coordinated through AMOR Ministries in San Diego (AMOR is the Spanish word for "love"). AMOR has a long history of bringing in work groups from the United States and Canada to help with various construction and ministry projects in communities throughout Mexico.

The home was built in the town of Rosarito for Susana Perez, a single mother with four children ages one to 14. At the time, the Perez family was living in a small camping trailer next to the site where they laid the foundation for the new home.

To show her gratefulness, Perez prepared food for the young workers. And when she was not busy with her children, Perez worked along side the group to finish her new house.

"There was a tremendous spirit among the group, as well as a strong work ethic," says Carmody. "When it got dark, we continued to work by the headlights of a car."

Several days of rain put a kink in the original

construction plans, but the industrious students didn't let the downtime go to waste. Instead, they took on the task of painting rooms in a nearby orphanage, then stayed around to help work with the children.

Carmody says the orphanage work was a moving experience. "Even though there was a language barrier, the children craved attention," she says. "The parents can't afford to keep them, but these poor children can't be adopted. It's a shame to see such suffering."

Throughout the trip, the group stayed in a community center the neighborhood uses as a church and gathering place. They slept on the floor and forsook the basic necessities (heat and

inside plumbing). In the spirit of helping others, a local family invited the college group to use the shower in their private home.

"The father of the household where we were invited to shower said, 'You're down here to serve us, now let us serve you,'" says Carmody. "We learned to receive as well as give. In receiving we give up the part of ourselves that wanted to be in control."

One day during the trip, the students toured a place called "the dump" where people lived. Carmody and Schwab says it felt strange to be looking at people's poverty.

"It makes you appreciate what you have," Schwab says. "Ellen and I look forward to continuing this spirit of involvement not only for the less fortunate in other countries but in our own communities as well."



Fr. Dan Torson, Amy Schwab and Ellen Carmody relax with students from William Jewell College and local children.

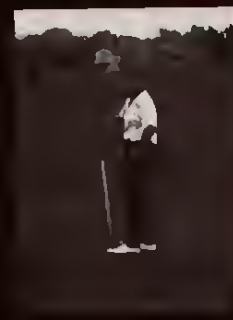
## Looking Back At Avila's 1994 Golf Classic And Cocoa & Carols

Here are some highlights from last year's events to help you remember the good time you had for a good cause. Watch your mail for information on these exciting upcoming events.



Banners welcome Avila Golf Classic participants to the beautiful Loch Lloyd Country Club.

Dorothy Whitfield '59 relaxes after the grueling front nine at Loch Lloyd.



Mike Abell, CEO of St. Joseph Health Center in Kansas City, takes his best shot at a difficult putt.

One of the highlights of the Golf Classic is the opportunity to win a prize at every hole. Here a participant tries his best to sink a hole in one for a 1994 Honda.



Longtime Avila faculty member Bob Sampson (standing) and Sandra Holton '82 chat about their days on the Avila campus.

Philippina Hoffman '61 (right) and Bill Speas (left) braved the wintry weather and made the trek to Cocoa & Carols held at Figlio's on the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City.



Richard Scott, Director of Planned Giving/Annual Fund, (left) spends time catching up with Larry Miller, former Avila faculty member, as Theresa Miller and Sandy Roberts '88 listen in.

Newschannel 4 reporter Scott Klaus (left) compares holiday sweaters with Avila president Dr. Larry Kramer.





# An Evening Of Adventure Turns Into An Evening Of Success

**A**fter months of planning, the 1995 Avila College Steer Dinner & Auction went off with a bang Saturday, March 11, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on Kansas City's Country Club Plaza. When all was said and done, guests helped raise more than \$250,000 — almost 25 percent of Avila's \$1 million annual scholarship fund!

"I believe the continued support of this event reflects the community's belief in the mission and values of Avila College," says Dr. James T. Barry, vice president for advancement. "People who donate their money, gifts and time to the Steer Dinner can see the funds we raise going directly to student scholarships and other important college needs."

Once again a generous friend of the college, Mary Beth Meyers, came forward to be

Steer Dinner underwriter. Other major contributors included four challenge donors: Philomena Muntzel, Rose Teicher, Universal Press Syndicate through Andrews & McMeel Foundation, and Dorothy Whitfield. Significant support was also received from three dinner patrons: Mrs. Michael Berbiglia, Forster-Powers Charitable Trust and The Sprint Corporation.



More than 60 table sponsors were enlisted for the event, setting a new record for community participation. As is the tradition, auctioneer Lance Walker invited 20 guests to "stand up for Avila" by paying \$100 for a box of six prime steaks from a prize-winning American Royal steer donated by Connie Hubbard and her patents, Don and Beverly Hubbard. Special attention was also focused upon two rare travel adventures: an African photographic safari and a Masters Golf Tournament package.

Besides the fervor of the live auction, one of the evening's highlights was the announcement of the winners of two outstanding raffle prizes. Marc Inzerillo was the delighted winner of a brand new 1995 Toyota Tercel, compliments of Molle Toyota/Chevrolet; and Cathy Gutierrez drew the lucky winning ticket for a \$1,000 shopping spree at the Jones Store.

This year marked not only the 19th year of the Steer Dinner, but the passing of the torch to a new coordinator for the event. Pat Martin, who was recognized for her contribution to the Steer Dinner's growth and success, handed over the leadership reins to Nancy Wormington who joined the advancement office in December as director of the capital campaign.

Wormington says she's excited about her new duties and looks forward to maintaining the prestige of the Steer Dinner as it enters its twentieth year. "Although the evening was a great adventure for everyone involved," Wormington says, "the real adventure begins when deserving Avila students receive the funds they need to continue their education."



Rose Teicher, honorary chairperson, Dr. Larry Kramer, Avila College president, Philomena Muntzel, Challenge Donor, Mary Beth Meyers, event underwriter.



Mr. and Mrs. Mike Morrissey, he is an Avila Trustee; Mr. and Mrs. Peter Levi, he is an Avila Trustee, Dr. Larry and Jan Kramer, U.S. Congresswoman Karen McCarthy and Tom Gordon, Avila Trustee.



Student volunteers: Jessica Brice, Stephanie Brand and Marsha Bell.

Lance Walker auctions off an annual highlight: the wedding package, part of which is modeled here by Beth Marrin.



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wormington, master of ceremonies, Nancy Wormington, new Steer Dinner coordinator, Pat Martin, Avila's director of development.



Philomena Muntzel celebrates with Sister Olive Louise Dallavis, Avila's president emerita and Dorothy Sullivan after recording the evening's highest bid of \$14,000.





Dr. Kramer and Rose Teicher, honorary chairperson.

Dr. Larry Kramer presents Mary Beth Meyers with a Waterford angel in appreciation of her generous support.



Mr. and Mrs. Don Hubbard and Connie Hubbard '91, purchasers of the prize-winning American Royal Steer for the auction, Dr. Tim Barry, Avila's vice president for advancement.

## Class Of 1995 Urged To Serve Others



The class of 1995 gathers before the traditional procession to Mabee Fieldhouse for commencement, and their futures.

**B**lue skies and sunshine welcomed an overflow crowd that gathered at Mabee Fieldhouse on May 13th to see degrees conferred on more than 290 graduating Avila students ranging from age 21 to 62.

Dr. Susan Hackler Fetsch, R.N., chair of the department of nursing, presided over the commencement ceremonies. She and Bishop Raymond J. Boland of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, took time during their opening remarks to recognize parents, spouses and families for their support of the ambitious graduates.

Included in this year's class was the first group to complete the graduate education cohort program. One special member of this cohort group was Dorothy Lambert, 62-year old principal of our Lady of Lourdes Elementary School in Raytown, Mo., who received her master's in education. (She received her B.A. 40 years ago from Saint Teresa College—the predecessor to Avila.) Other notables sitting with the graduates were Molly A. James, a special education major from Leawood, Kan., who left after graduation for the Peace Corps in Tunisia to help that country develop its first special education program. There was also a pair of twin sisters who received their MBAs, as well as an international husband and wife team married in their

native country in February who received their MBAs together.

One notable absentee from the festivities was Ed McInnis, but he had a very good reason. McInnis, a quadriplegic psychology major from Overland Park, Kan., missed the ceremonies to participate in a national forum in Washington D.C. which focused on changing federal policies affecting people with disabilities.

Before degrees were handed out, the audience watched as Tom Zarda, chairman of the board of trustees at Avila, and Avila President Dr. Larry Kramer presented honorary doctorates to Dr. Ben Zobrist, retired director of the Truman Library and Museum and William L. McSweeney, Jr., publisher of *The National Catholic Reporter* and the graduation keynote speaker.

During his remarks to the graduates, McSweeney urged the students to become active in volunteer work.

"Graduates, today you become members of an educated elite. Only one in five Americans over age 25 has a bachelor's degree," McSweeney said, "and one in 14 has a graduate degree, and society needs their help. Voluntarism and involvement have helped make our country a greater one. Reach out, share your talents, share your education."

McSweeney believes the speed of technological and scientific changes has outpaced the abilities of our social, cultural, educational, political and religious institutions to deal with them.

"Some of these institutions that helped create the very fabric of our society are now frayed threads," he said. "As government support diminishes, the need for voluntarism in private agencies increases proportionately."

Social institutions are also going through a crisis, said McSweeney.

"Broken families, abused women and children, drug abuse and crime all threaten the very core of our cities and are turning rapidly into the suburbs."

Agencies such as United Way, Catholic Charities, America Red Cross, Salvation Army, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and hundreds of other social agencies offer opportunities for involvement, said McSweeney. "These societal sectors need our investment, our thinking, our help," he added.

In education, he said, public and parochial schools need the reinforcement of involved parents and citizens.

"Our schools represent the future. Help them to help young people to achieve. Some will, of course, by being teachers. Others can help in many ways—tutoring, talking to students about your career journey, letting students visit you at work—however you do it, help the next generation move forward."

For much of our country's history, McSweeney said, politics was considered an admirable calling.

"Where today are our political heroes?" he said. "Your city, state, country need you more perhaps than ever before."

And, McSweeney said, religious institutions allow us to become a community.

"Find a parish, a temple or a mosque that suits you and become active. Our churches offer us the opportunity to worship sacramentally in community."



## 8 • Accent/Fall '95





Dr. Larry Kramer, as he began his first decade as Avila's leader.

After earning his doctorate, Kramer left Aquinas for St. Mary of the Plains College in Dodge City, Kan., accepting the newly created position of executive vice president—a position he held for 10 years. Until one fateful morning.

While waiting to enter an executive meeting, Kramer happened upon an issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education and saw an opening for the Avila presidency. He applied and was offered the job in late August of 1985.

"For a few months leading up to seeing the ad, I had given serious thought to becoming a college president," Kramer says. "I had been given so many opportunities to achieve my educational goals, I felt that being a president would allow me to give that opportunity to others. I just firmly believe an entire college community should develop that same mentality."

But with every silver lining there is a cloud. His daughter would be beginning her senior year at Dodge City Senior High School, plus Kramer was president of the school board. The next move was hard, but handled with great care and conviction.

Kramer resigned his board position while his family stayed behind temporarily. Upon his arrival on the Avila campus, the now-President Kramer took up residence in an Avila dormitory.

## The Challenges Of A New Regime

When he took over the Avila helm from the living legend Sister Olive Louise Dallavis, who presided for 25 years, he knew the challenges that were before him.

Avila's bread-and-butter nursing program, which provided half of the college's daytime enrollment, was attracting fewer students because nursing demand was down throughout the nation. Evening and weekend programs that Sister Olive had the foresight to launch were sustaining the college. But the loss of day students was giving Avila a reputation locally as a college only for older, part-time students.

On top of that, because it was an all-women college until 1969, Avila's alumnae were more likely to be administrative assistants than corporate CEOs, which reflected society's sexism rather than the quality of Avila's graduates. That meant that Avila did not have as many highly visible alums touting the old alma mater.

Despite the work that was before him, Kramer says he knew that Avila was the place for him after his first meeting with Sister Olive Louise.

"I sat down in her office after my first interview and asked her if she would be available for me to consult on major decisions," Kramer says. "She told me 'absolutely not' because when she first took over this position, she was asked to confer on all major decisions with her superiors. 'The new president needs to make decisions and move the college ahead without consulting with me' she added."

"We have maintained a great relationship," he adds. "I do sit down with her periodically about what is taking place so she is up to date when she speaks to others about the college. She is a tremendous asset to Avila."

## The Early Days

"My first four months I spent listening to faculty, staff and students about what was good about Avila and what needed to be improved," he says.

Kramer wanted Avila to grow not by focusing on the college's weaknesses, but focusing on its strengths. And the one strength that was clearly evident was the college's Catholic values.

"As I listened to the concerns of Catholics and non-Catholics alike, I heard a common theme of maintaining the quality of an Avila education and the values of the Catholic church," he adds.

But concerns over the commitment to Catholic values nearly paled in comparison to concerns over the fiscal viability of the school.

After discussions with people representing the entire Avila community, from custodian to department

head, Kramer hammered out a budget for the year. Then he quickly produced a budget for the following year. A few months later, he produced yet another budget for the year after that.

Those budgets gave students, faculty and employees assurance that Avila was going to survive. With the immediate fiscal problem addressed, Kramer says he turned to long-range planning.

"People were so concerned with the fiscal problems that they couldn't dream," he says. "We focused on strategies to help increase enrollment and boost income through gift contributions."

## A Strategy That Worked

While Kramer's vision has helped increased full-time enrollment by 33 percent, he is more proud of the fact the increase was accomplished without compromising academic quality or integrity.

"I believe our mission is to create opportunities for

*"I think everyone  
connected with Avila  
College should feel proud  
of what we've been able  
to accomplish together."  
—Dr. Larry Kramer*

people to succeed, but that doesn't mean becoming a diploma factory," he says. "When colleges lower their standards, they produce graduates with little to no skills to survive in today's fast-changing world—let alone become a success."

The commitment to strengthening the core curriculum has boosted Avila's reputation nationally. In 1994 Avila was chosen as one of only 22 colleges nationwide to participate in the Asheville Institute of General Education. Then this past January, Avila was represented as one of three keynote speakers at the annual meeting for the Association of American Colleges and Universities. But the accolades don't stop there. During July, the college participated in a symposium sponsored by the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities in St. Paul, Minn.

The college's reputation is getting stronger within the Kansas City metropolitan area as witnessed by two recent significant events: 1) Avila 2000, the college's first major fund-raising campaign, surpassed the campaign's \$6 million goal by more than \$1 million a full year ahead of schedule; and 2) nearly \$250,000 raised by the 1995 Avila College Steer Dinner & Auction fundraiser which had a record attendance of more than 570 Kansas City dignitaries.

"I think everyone connected with Avila College should feel proud of what we've been able to accomplish together."



More accustomed to handing out honors, Dr. Larry Kramer was on the receiving end of an Alumni Meritorious Achievement Award from his alma mater, Pittsburg State University.



# Class Notes

## 1945

Mrs. Patricia A. Trotter '45 is proud of her daughter, who graduated from Avila this year.

## 1946

Mrs. Shirley Jochems and husband Tim have been travelling through New Zealand, Australia, Panama, and Spain. They have been enjoying luncheons with other alums from the class of '46.

## 1949

Geraldine Carrigan is director of the Catholic Renewal Center of the Diocese of Pueblo, Colo. She coordinated two renewal conferences in the "Centennial State" during 1994. She also is editor of *Heart of the Harvest* published by the Mary Centers of Colorado.

## 1950

Mary Pat Heller attended her 50th high school reunion in St. Mary's, Kan. Mary and husband Ted attended a reunion of his military squad, the 99th Bombardiers. They reside in Anchorage, Alaska.

Sr. Rose Joseph Kennebeck is a teacher at Immaculate Conception Parish in Monmouth, Ill. It is her fourth time back to ICS since 1953. She enjoys her summer visits with her Avila C.S.J. friends.

## 1952

Mrs. C.G. Johnson tell us about her kids: Barbara is in her second year as a surgical residence; Kathy has four kids and is living in Montreal; Caroline is a nursing student.

## 1958

Ms. Joanne King owns a health care consulting business, Mitchell, King & Associates in Kansas City, Mo.

## 1959

Susan Ross Bingold and her husband David are semi-retired and working part time with their businesses in Hachensack, Minn. and Mesa, Ariz.

## 1961

Mona Lee Prendergast '61 is wanting to contact Mrs. Mary (Chu) Sheng Yu '62. If anyone knows how to reach Mary, please call 304-779-2605.

## 1962

Barbara A. Moore, C.S.J. is serving as secretary on the board of trustees for Catholic Charities USA and Vision 2000 Task Force CC-USA. She lives in Kansas City, Mo.

## 1965

Mrs. Richard Laubengayer is busy with local production work in Klamath Falls, Ore.

## 1966

Mrs. Leonard W. Clark is vice principal at Charleston Elementary in Charleston, Mo.

## 1967

Mrs. Mimi Burch teaches first grade at Cherokee Elementary. This past year, she had a student teacher from Avila.

Carol Vanneman Fuemmeler is proud of her son Timothy who received an appointment to West Point and is now in his second year. He is also a member of the West Point tennis team.

## 1969

Terry S. O'Neil received a master's degree in clinical psychology from the University of Kansas and is working on a Ph.D. Before returning to school, he worked in the computer software business for nearly 20 years with his last stint being director of customer support and training for a software company in Redmond, Wash.

## 1970

Mrs. James D. Huber has started a landscaping business in Kansas City, Mo.

Patricia (Bleier) Markway received a Master's of Jurisprudence in Health Law from the Loyola University School of Law—Health Law Institute in Chicago. She is administrator for the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

## 1973

Maureen O'Brien Gilchrist, a Certified Diabetes Educator, is currently treasurer of the Kansas City Regional Association of Diabetes Educators.

Mrs. Walter N. Lawless, Jr. is enjoying retirement in Baton Rouge, La. after working 16 years for Louisiana State University.

David L. Martin received a master's degree in psychology and is currently working as a counselor.

Deborah Mentgen received her MBA from Washington University in St. Louis.

## 1974

Mrs. Kathryn L. Luft is a nursing instructor at St. Luke's College in Kansas City, Mo.

Sarah M. Carr is retired, enjoying traveling and getting up late in the morning. She lives in Kansas City, Mo.

Mrs. David G. Hooper is pursuing a master's degree in nursing at Widener University in Chester, Pa.

## 1975

Jeanette L. Reker is president of Women's Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City.

## 1976

Tracy S. Henrichson is department chair for special education at Holmes Elementary in Mesa, Ariz.

## 1977

Janis Brenizer Walk is taking a break from her nursing career to spend time at home with her children, Jonathan and Jennifer. She is working as a freelance consultant on newsletters and other marketing literature for medical practices.

Bonnie Carter Kane of Shawnee Mission, Kan., is teaching six-to-eight-year-olds with behavior disorders and learning disabilities at Children's World.

## 1978

Linnea K. Larson ('83 MBA) has been transferred from Dallas to Charlotte, N.C. She works for National Gypsum Co.

Kathy A. McClanahan is a special education coordinator in the Lee's Summit, Mo., school district.

## 1979

Susan King, a math professor at Kansas Newman College in Wichita, received nearly \$20,000 in grant money for teaching in service training workshops in math/science integration.

## 1982

Mrs. Patrick N. Boyle was named to the Advisory Commission on Persons with Disabilities for the city of Naperville, Ill.

Mary Beth Eilermann is a project engineer for McCarthy Brothers Construction Co. in St. Louis.

## 1984

Ibraheem T. Badejo is Senior Research Chemist at Miles, Inc. in Charleston, S.C. He is also an adjunct professor at the College of Charleston. Last August, he was elected as the chairman of the South Carolina section of the American Chemical Society.



# Class Notes

David Berberich and his wife Kathleen are Avila Alumni Ambassadors recruiting at St. Louis area college fairs.

Ms. Marianne Micco has opened a CPA firm in Kansas City, Mo.

James R. Wright studied and toured the United Kingdom last year. Look for him in Kansas City theaters and in local and national television commercials.

## 1985

Mrs. Paul J. Buechter of Sugar Hill, Ga., is doing commercials, plays and had a small part in last year's hit movie "The War" starring Kevin Costner.

Susanna Velasquez is living in Orlando where she is busy working in film, television, commercials, musical theater, and modeling. She appeared in a summer stock tour of "The King and I" with Shirley Jones which ran in St. Louis, Atlanta and Detroit. She is also singing for Premier Cruise Lines in the show "Legends In Concert."

## 1986

Jeffrey M. Klenkeln received a master's degree in nursing administration from Kansas University.

Linda Marie Morris is account supervisor at Bernstein-Rein Advertising, Inc. in Kansas City. She also serves on the boards of O'Hara High School and Ronald McDonald House.

## 1988

Ann L. Lach is now quality services coordinator for Health Source, Inc. of Overland Park, Kan.

## 1989

John P. Murph owns Murphy's Properties in Belton, Mo., which specializes in rebuilding houses.

## 1990

Janet M. Aguirre received a promotion at Hallmark Cards.

## Married

Renee Mazeitis married Richard Joyce '90. They live in Leavenworth, Kan.

Kim Jurd '90 married Jeff Blystone. They live in Independence, Mo.

## Future Eagles

Zachary Woods born to Scott and Ann Bayer Woods '84 of St. Louis.

Kathryn Elizabeth born to Kristi L. Tannahill '90 of Shawnee Mission, Kan.

Drake D'Angelo born to Ed and Patricia Henke '88 of Lawrenceville, Ga.

Nicholas and Christina Leick adopted by Mrs. William L. Leick '79 of Kansas City, Mo.

Sharon Genevieve born to Leon and Theresa Doyle '82 of Springfield, Mo.

## Alum Shares National Honor With Avila



James T. Barry, vice president for advancement, announces the creation of the Dr. L. George Smith Scholarship for business students at Avila College. The scholarship originated through the generous donation of \$5,000 from Debbie Mize, fleet manager at Hallmark Cards, Inc. of Kansas City.

An Avila alumna, Mize was named "Fleet Manager of the Year" by *Fleet Management* magazine. This national honor included a \$5,000 check to the business school of her choice. "The decision was easy," Mize says. "My education at Avila was pivotal to my success in the business world. Avila made it possible for me to work at Hallmark and complete both my undergraduate and MBA degrees."

Mize recently presented the check to Dr. Larry Kramer, president of Avila College. During the presentation she noted the influence of Dr. L. George Smith, former coordinator of the MBA program and business professor at Avila. "He was more than a teacher, he was a mentor," she says. "He challenged everyone in his classes which made us all more well-rounded—both as people and as employees. I'm honored to help begin a scholarship that will recognize Dr. Smith's impact on me as well as other Avila business students."

## Heritage Club Update

Heritage Club Day 1994 was held during Avila's 1994 Homecoming Weekend. Names of deceased friends and alumni who made estate gifts to Avila were read during a special mass while prayers were said for all Heritage Club members.

The Avila College Heritage Club was established in 1988 to recognize individuals who have made provisions for the college in their estate plans. Such provisions may include bequests, trusts, life insurance policies, a pooled income fund and annuities.

Membership also includes donors who have made a major commitment to the endowment growth of the college. Individuals, corporations and foundations which funded named scholarships are included on the Heritage Club Honor Roll.

The following Heritage Club members are listed in memoriam for 1994: Josephine Borserine, Olivia Dallavis, Marjory Martin, Jan E. Matthews '60, Mary Margaret O'Sullivan '26, and Anne C. Stewart '21.

## THE 12TH ANNUAL AVILA COLLEGE GOLF CLASSIC

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

LOCH LLOYD COUNTRY CLUB

Test your golf skills ... win fabulous prizes ... enjoy great food prepared by Smokestack of Martin City ... network with others ... and, best of all, help the Avila College Alumni Association raise money for student scholarships. For just \$200 per person (or \$800 per team), it's one of the best golf values around! Spots are filling up fast so reserve your space.

CALL 942-8400, EXT. 2236 TODAY!

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## ACCENT ON AVILA

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This issue of *Accent on Avila* was written by Andrew Naugher, Coordinator of Editorial Services and Grant Development; Pat Martin, Director of Development; and John Armato, Director of Community Relations. It was designed and produced by Timothy D. Burkhart, Coordinator of Design and Production. Photography was provided by Kelly Mills and Elaine Shea. *Accent on Avila* is published by the Advancement Office for the alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends of Avila College.

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## Good News

### Greek life comes to Avila

On a cold and drizzly day in mid-April, clusters of Avila College students took turns teetering up and tottering down, over and over again while music blared from a nearby van and friends cheered them on between mouthfuls of sub sandwiches.

It was the Second Annual Avila College Teeter-Totter-A-Thon benefiting the American Red Cross. And it was a landmark event. A year had come and gone since these Avila students had teetered and tottered in the nearly identical miserable weather. Then they were student interest groups. This year, they were members of Avila's first fraternity and sorority colonies.

Volunteers from fraternity Alpha Kappa Lambda and sorority Alpha Gamma Delta ultimately raised more than the \$850-plus they presented to the Red Cross; they raised the consciousness of everyone else on campus: Greek Life has come to Avila College.

According to Rob Fisher, coordinator of new student development, the colonies will busy themselves with future activities such as working with the Avila Montessori School, Olympic Day for Avila students, and a campus-wide cleanup.

### Research on women means a summer at Radcliffe for Avila psychology professor

Cathy Bogart, professor of psychology spent her summer in Massachusetts studying at Radcliffe College's prestigious summer institute—thanks in part to her research on women. Bogart was involved in an extensive year-long research project on the relationship of alcoholism and family dysfunction as well as how family

alcoholism affects a woman's attitude towards alcohol. The first findings were published in November 1994 by the *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, while the alcohol use among women study was published in the national magazine *Women & Health*.

### We're in the Money (with just 18 others)

Money Magazine (March 1995 issue) ranked radiologic technology sixth in its list of the 50 hottest careers. That's good news for students of Avila's program, which is one of only 19 fully accredited baccalaureate programs in radiologic technology in the U.S.

### Montessori students make a quilt for mother nature

At the suggestion of Jeanne Lillig-Patterson, Avila board of counselor member and mother of two Avila College Montessori School students, the Montessori School initiated a raffle of a quilt featuring squares designed by the students themselves. The children chose the theme of nature and decorated their squares with pictures of bugs, dinosaurs, flowers, birds, snakes, and even "I love you, mom." Each of the 48 children enrolled in the school for spring 1995 had a square in the queen-size quilt.

### To Russia with love

Sue Ellen McCalley, assistant professor of education at Avila, will be spending part of her fall semester in Russia helping the former Soviet bloc country develop a national program to help children with special needs. During her two-week trip, McCalley will observe classrooms and make presentations to educators at the Universities of Moscow and St. Petersburg. She will also

conduct various workshops with Russian teachers. This is the second time McCalley has been selected by the U.S. Center for Exceptional Children to travel abroad. The first was a 1994 trip to China as part of an American-lead contingency to help that country develop criteria for its special needs students.

### Senator Nancy Kassebaum, let's do lunch

Recently a number of Kansas City's leaders were asked by *Ingram's* magazine to identify a person with whom they would like to enjoy a meal and good conversation. Sr. Olive Louise, president emerita at Avila, named Senator Nancy Kassebaum because of her keen insight and articulation skills. The senator read the article and sent a handwritten note to Sister thanking her for the honor.

### Avila nursing students will be wise on new ways to immunize

The Avila College department of nursing is one of 15 sites selected nationwide to participate in a test project designed to enhance immunization content in nursing education and practice. The immunization curriculum was prepared by the Education Development Center, Inc. in partnership with the American Nurses Association, the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Parts of the six-hour curriculum will be used in the "Nursing of Children" course for Avila's undergraduate and Nursing Re-entry programs. The Avila nursing department will receive a honorarium and the curriculum in exchange for presenting a minimum of three hours of content, then participating in the pre-and post-tests and follow-up interviews.